

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Original) A stabiliser composition, comprising:

a salt of a halogen-containing oxy acid of the general formula  $M(ClO_4)_k$ , wherein M is Li, Na, K, Mg, Ca, Sr, Zn, Al, La, Ce or an ammonium cation of the general formula  $NR_4^+$ , the radicals R are each independently of the others H or a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to about 10 carbon atoms and k, according to the valency of M, is the number 1, 2 or 3, and

an inorganic acid, an organic acid or an inorganic base,

wherein the composition contains less than 10 % crystallites of the salt by weight that have a crystallite size greater than 3  $\mu m$  based on the total content of the salt of the halogen-containing oxy acid in the composition.

2. (Original) The stabiliser composition according to claim 1, further comprising an alkaline earth metal hydroxide as the inorganic base.

3. (Original) The stabiliser composition according to claim 1, further comprising at least one further additive.

4. (Original) The stabiliser composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition contains less than 10 % crystallites of the salt by weight that have a crystallite size greater than 100 nm based on the total content of the salt of the halogen-containing oxy acid in the composition.

5. (Original) The stabiliser composition according to claim 4, further comprising an alkaline earth metal hydroxide as the inorganic base.

6. (Original) The stabiliser composition according to claim 5, further comprising at least one further additive.

7. (Original) The stabiliser composition according to claim 4, further comprising at least one further additive.

8. (Original) A polymer composition, comprising a halogen-containing polymer and a stabiliser composition comprising:

a salt of a halogen-containing oxy acid of the general formula  $M(ClO_4)_k$ , wherein M is Li, Na, K, Mg, Ca, Sr, Zn, Al, La, Ce or an ammonium cation of the general formula  $NR_4^+$ , the radicals R are each independently of the others H or a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to about 10 carbon atoms and k, according to the valency of M, is the number 1, 2 or 3, and

an inorganic acid, an organic acid or an inorganic base,

wherein the stabiliser composition contains less than 10 % crystallites of the salt by weight that have a crystallite size greater than 3  $\mu m$  based on the total content of the salt of the halogen-containing oxy acid in the stabiliser composition.

9. (Original) The polymer composition according to claim 8, wherein the stabiliser composition further comprises an alkaline earth metal hydroxide as the inorganic base.

10. (Original) The polymer composition according to claim 8, further wherein the stabiliser composition further comprises at least one further additive.

11. (Original) The polymer composition according to claim 8, wherein the stabiliser composition contains less than 10 % crystallites of the salt by weight that have a crystallite size greater than 100 nm based on the total content of the salt of the halogen-containing oxy acid in the composition.

12. (Original) The stabiliser composition according to claim 11, wherein the stabiliser composition further comprises an alkaline earth metal hydroxide as the inorganic base.

13. (Original) The stabiliser composition according to claim 12, wherein the stabiliser composition further comprises at least one further additive.

14. (Original) The stabiliser composition according to claim 11, wherein the stabiliser composition further comprises at least one further additive.

15. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a stabiliser composition for halogen-containing polymers, comprising the step of reacting an aqueous solution of one or more salts of halogen-containing oxy acids with at least one anhydride selected from the group consisting of inorganic acid anhydrides, organic acid anhydrides, inorganic base anhydrides, and mixtures thereof, to form a reaction product.

16. (Original) The process according to claim 15, wherein an inorganic base is formed during said reacting step.

17. (Original) The process according to claim 15, wherein the aqueous solution comprises at least 10 % by weight of one or more salts of halogen-containing oxy acids.

18. (Original) The process according to claim 15, wherein less than 10 % by weight of the crystallites of the one or more salts of the halogen-containing oxy acid formed in said reacting step have a crystallite size greater than 3  $\mu\text{m}$ , based on the total content of the one or more salts of the halogen-containing oxy acid.

19. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 15, wherein less than 10 % by weight of the crystallites of the one or more salts of the halogen-containing oxy acid formed in said reacting step have a crystallite size greater than 200 500 nm, based on the total content of the one or more salts of the halogen-containing oxy acid.

20. (Original) The process according to claim 15, further comprising the step of mixing the reaction product with one or more additives.

21. (Original) A stabiliser composition prepared according to the process of claim  
15.

22. (Original) A polymer composition including the stabiliser composition of claim  
21.